

HONORING DEAD PIONEERS

Apollo to Leave 2 Russ Medals

WASHINGTON, D.C. (UPI)—President Nixon disclosed Thursday that the Apollo 11 crew will leave on the moon the medals of two dead Soviet cosmonauts in addition to the flight insignia of three dead American astronauts.

In a White House ceremony honoring retiring Gen. John P. McConnell, Air Force chief of staff, Mr. Nixon said the Russians' medals would be included because "there is no national boundary to courage."

"In recognizing the dedications and sacrifice of brave men of different nations," the President said, "we underscore an example we hope to set: that if men can reach the moon, men can reach agreement."

THE TWO Americans scheduled to land on the moon Sunday afternoon represent all mankind, Mr. Nixon said. "Their achievement will be the world's achievement. It is fitting, therefore, that the first lunar explorers carry with them some recognition of the sacrifice made by other space pioneers who helped to blaze their trail."

The dead Americans to be honored were Air Force Lt. Col. Virgil I. "Gus" Grissom, Navy Lt. Cmdr. Roger B. Chaffee and Air Force Lt. Col. Edward H. White, all of whom died in a fire on the launch pad at Cape Kennedy Jan. 27, 1967, while preparing for the second orbital flight in the Apollo program.

THE TWO dead cosmonauts whose medals will be left on the moon were Col. Yuri A. Gagarin, the first man to travel in space and who was killed in the crash of a jet plane March 27, 1968, and Col. Vladimir Komarov, who died April 27, 1967, when his space vehicle's parachute failed on returning to earth from an orbital flight.

Mr. Nixon said the widows of the two cosmonauts had sent their husbands' medals to Col. Frank A. Borman, an Apollo astronaut who recently toured the Soviet Union, with the request that the decorations be taken to the moon.

U.S. space officials turned down U.N. Secretary-General U Thant's post card to the moon, it was disclosed yesterday.

Apollo 11 was to carry an ordinary 13-cent U.N. airmail post card, but Mission Control said there was no time to decontaminate the card and there were "weight considerations."



Gagarin Komarov
Courage has no bounds

FOR MOON LAN

Holiday Vary V

Shorter work days, time off for TV-watching, and in some cases complete shutdown will mark Monday's expected Apollo 11 moon landing at Upper Midwest businesses, schools, and government offices.

More than half the 50 states took President Nixon's cue and proclaimed Monday a holiday. In 28, state offices will be closed all day.

Generally, state offices will close or have abbreviated work days, and federal agencies will be closed, but schools, businesses and local governments will remain open. Many will have on-the-job observances celebrating the lunar feat.

Minnesota Gov. Harold LeVander yesterday announced that, although he lacks authority to designate special holidays, state offices will not open until 10 a.m. Monday, two hours later than usual.

THE GOVERNORS of North Dakota and South Dakota, however, declared Monday a legal holiday and excused all but essential state employees from work.

But in Madison, Wis., Gov. Warren Knowles said "the tight fiscal situation" precluded a holiday for that state's 24,000 employees.

Governors of both the New York and American